

## ABSTRACT

AL-V-300

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(178)  
 Finzel, Maryland vicinity  
 Public/Private

1898 (additional site)

Milestone No. ---(178), northeast of the settlement of Finzel, on the summit of Big Savage Mountain, is a small native stone already in place by 1898, at the time of the Bauer survey and marking of the boundary between Allegany and Garrett counties. It is about 5500 feet west of the preceding monument, No. ---(177) and marks an additional point on Mason and Dixon's 230.228-mile West Line, the provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Like all the other stones and boulders around it, but much smaller, it is a greenish, smooth stone; is rectangular in shape, measures about 8 inches wide on the north and south sides and about 12½ inches wide on the east and west sides, stands only about 11 inches high wedged in between two very large boulders, has a flat top, and is embellished only with a drill hole in the top, which marks the point on the Bauer Line where it intersects Mason and Dixon's West Line. This stone is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining the West Line. Locally, as one of 37 markers along the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, it is significant not only for its identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties, but also as it represents a second attempt to define the Allegany/Garrett county boundary, leaving the wedge between the Chisholm and Bauer lines still unresolved legally.

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Survey No. AL-V-A-30

Magi No.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)

HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 1 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 178)  
Same as Bauer Line: Monument No. 1 (1898)

### 2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off the northeast side of Sampson Rock Road

CITY, TOWN

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 12

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY Allegany

MD: & Garrett / PA: Somerset

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	N/A	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED		<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED		<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS		<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED		<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED		<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> NO		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: state & county boundary marker

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY (marker only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

NAME

State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE

Allegany County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

AL-VA-289 entered 6/2/81

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

# 7 DESCRIPTION

Survey No. ~~AL-V-300~~

AL-V-300

## CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. ---(178) on the summit of Big Savage Mountain, is a small native "post" already in place on the boundary at the time of the Bauer survey of 1898 when running the line between Allegany and Garrett counties. Its only embellishment is a small drill hole made in the flat to mark the point where this line intersected Mason and Dixon's West Line. It is in excellent condition, altered only by the drill hole; measures about 8 inches wide on the north and south sides, by about 12 1/2 inches wide on the east and west sides, and stands about 11 inches high, wedged between two very large boulders.

The area here is a broad ridge, remote, densely wooded (much of the woods a thicket of perhaps because of earlier forest fires?), strewn with large boulders, windswept, and among the highest points along the West Line (elevation at the site about 2880 feet). The site is within Election District 13 of Allegany County, MD, and Southampton Township of Somerset County, PA; about 1 1/4 miles northeast of the settlement of Finzel, MD; about 200 feet east of No. ---(179), a new 1902 monument and original 1767 Mason and Dixon mound; about 3500 feet east-northeast of the bend in Sampson Rock Road; about 2900 feet due east of monument No. ---(180) and Mrs. Raley's house. It is wedged between two large boulders, in the midst of a mass of unusually large rounded boulders, about 200 feet south of the old east-west pipeline and at the north edge of the woods bordering the pipeline. It cannot be seen from any road or the pipeline, and only by accident when almost upon it. It is so unprepossessing, obscure, remote, improbable, and well guarded by rattlesnakes and copperheads, it is super-protected; but, should be officially marked in some way for better identification.

This marker is unique along the West Line, and is close to the 165-mile mark on Mason and Dixon's map of 1768, The ridge was described in their journal as "the great dividing Ridge of the Allegany Mountains" and an area beyond which they were unable to proceed further westward with their surveying until July 1767, after an agreement had been reached with the Six Nations (of Indians).

Note: see the enclosed opinion, dated March 4, 1965 by Attorney General Thomas B. Finan and his assistant, Stuart H. Rome, concerning "whether the proper boundary line dividing Allegany and Garrett Counties is the Chisholm Line or the Bauer Line...." (BOUNDARIES - Chapter 708 of the Laws of 1955 Purporting to Establish Bauer I as Boundary Between Garrett and Allegany Counties...)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

AL-V-300

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
X 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	X EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X OTHER (SPECIFY) boundary surveying
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1767 (area surveyed and marked)  
 1898 (native stone marked) **BUILDER/ARCHITECT** Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon  
**SURVEYORS**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. ---(178) is significant primarily as one of the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining Mason and Dixon's West Line, the 230.228-mile provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. This part of the Line was ~~surveyed~~ <sup>originally</sup> and marked at irregular intervals with cairns and additional wood posts in 1767. The present site on the Line was established in 1898 by Bauer (as his marker No. 1) when running and marking the boundary between Allegany and Garrett counties. Utilizing a small native stone already in place, Bauer marked the point where his line intersected the West Line by making a ~~drill~~ hole in the top. This was recorded by the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary and included in their listing of markers along this part of the Line. Locally, as one of 37 markers on the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, No. ---(178) is also significant as the northernmost point of the ~~Allegany-Garrett county boundary~~ <sup>controversial</sup> (as yet ~~not~~ <sup>legally settled, and not</sup> recognized by the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation, which uses the Chisholm Line, which terminates <sup>a point on</sup> at the West Line 4,307 feet further west).

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

Note: Garrett County was created from Allegany County in 1872 and the line run and marked by Daniel Chisholm, Esq., County Surveyor of Allegany County (his report filed October 8, 1872). Because of skepticism about the accuracy of this line, the Maryland General Assembly provided for a redrawing and marking of the line (Chapter 304 of the Laws of 1898). Dr. L. A. Bauer was appointed to run and mark the line by Governor Lloyd Lowndes. Bauer's line **CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY** terminated 4,307 feet east of the spot marked by his predecessor." (Chisholm)

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**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreQuadrangle name: Frostburg (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series  
(topographic), 1949 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 17, easting 67878, northing 439885

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
Maryland	Allegany/Garrett (according to: USGS quadrangle 1900-03 Resurvey, county maps; but not MD-DOT MGS + MD-DOT county maps)
Pennsylvania	Somerset

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

10/18/81 (site surveyed)

STREET &amp; NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

(301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

902) (STONE MON. SET 1902)

MAON DIXON WEST LINE MILESTONE  
FROSTBURG QUADRANGLE

AL-V-300

VEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES  
PHIC AND GEOLOGIC SURVEY

1865 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

NW 1/4 FROSTBURG 15' QUADRANGLE

SCALE: 1" = 2000' 1949 PHOTO REV. 1974

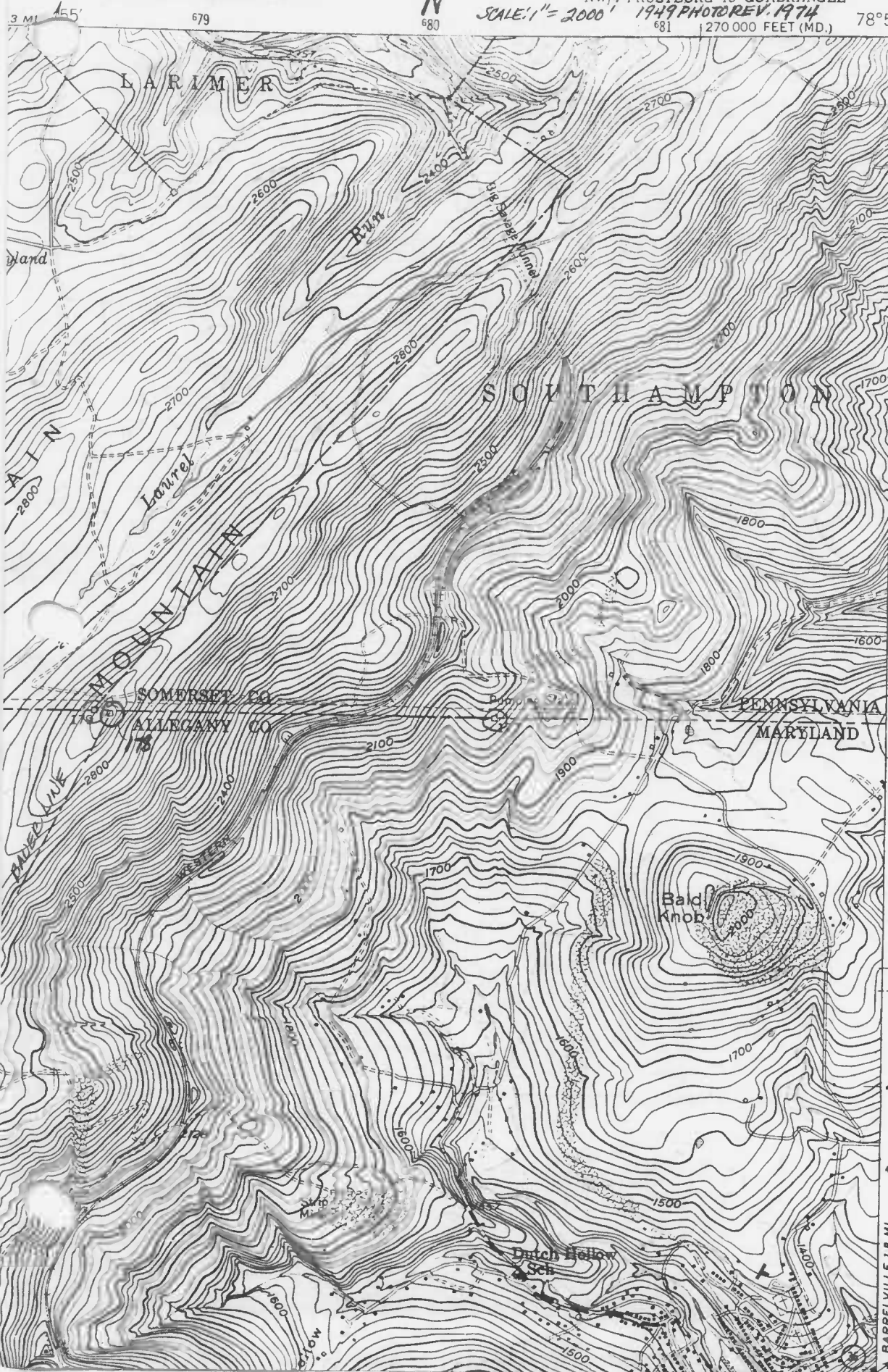
78°52'30"

39°45'

5263 IV SE  
(FAIRHOPE)

ALLEGANY CO.

GALETTI CO.



(177) 17.1  
(STONE MON. SET 1902)

(178) 17.1  
(STONE POST MARKING - BOUNDARY  
BETWEEN ALLEGANY &  
GARRETT COUNTIES)

700 000 FEET  
(MD.)

AL-V-A-300

BARRELVILLE 1.8 MI.  
CUMBERLAND 9.3 MI.